



BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

5 SOUTH LAST CHANCE GULCH

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-3930
FAX (406) 444-4920PO BOX 201301
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1301

January 26, 2011

Representative Cindy Hiner
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Representative Hiner:

As you requested the following is a summary of the meeting that was held on January 24, 2011 between representatives from Missoula County and the Department of Corrections. As you know the meeting was to further discuss the potential to convert the regional prison facility in Missoula back to serving the offenders from the Montana State Prison.

In attendance at the meeting representing Missoula County was Sheriff Carl Ibsen, Undersheriff Mike Dominick, Captain Jason Kowalski, Commissioner Jean Curtis, fiscal CEO Dale Bickell, Gary Elliott, Deputy County Attorney Marnie McClain. Department of Corrections staff was Pam Bunke, Ross Swanson, Pat Smith, Dan Maloughney and myself. In preparation of the meeting Mr. Smith and Mr. Swanson developed the attached document that outlined the issues from our perspective. We discussed the contents of this document with them but did not share it with them. Much of our emphasis was that the potential use would be for low side inmates and with potential for two or three intensive treatment units providing services for sex offenders and offenders with needs for substance abuse treatment.

Much of our discussion focused on the attached letter that we received from Missoula County in December. We addressed their concerns about industries, hobbies and indoor recreation. Mr. Smith indicated that these issues were not overly problematic as the facilities in Glendive and Great Falls no longer offer industry programs or have indoor recreation area and that the hobby issue has been much improved since Missoula converted to the MASC Facility eight years ago.

The issue of medical was also addressed. We indicated that we are very aware of the topic of inmate medical but also informed them that medical needs are likely to be even less problematic as the inmates from MSP will have been at MDIU, etc. and will not be coming directly from the streets or county detention centers as they do in the MASC program.

We also spoke about programming with the change in population. I expressed that there is potential, through contract discussions, that there is a possibility of us to continue to provide services in the same manner as we are now. Presently we have four state employees assigned to MASC with contractors

Representative Cindy Hiner

January 26, 2011

Page 2

providing mental health, substance abuse and sex offender treatment services. The only missing component to address the needs for MSP Inmates would be for an education position to provide GED instruction.

Most of the concerns from the Missoula group came from Captain Kowalski. The captain worked with the MSP inmates prior to MASC. He was vocal about a lack of programming for inmates such as industries and recreation. He made assumptions that we would be placing high risk offenders in the facility serving long sentences. I feel our explanation relative to Low Side inmates made some impact but he remained concerned about past problems that he experienced with MSP inmates.

I feel we left the meeting with, them having a better understanding of the needs our system has for additional prison beds. I am hopeful that they now have a better understanding and that our interest in changing the function of the Missoula facility is solely dependent on the need for secure bed space. I explained the rationale for moving the MASC program to a different level of security and the cost savings associated with that. I made them aware that executive action would take place on 2/1/11 and that their reaction/response to our needs would be helpful in your decision making, Commissioner Curtiss seemed to understand this. Overall the meeting was friendly and I feel they now do have a better grasp on our needs and rationale for our desire to utilize the Missoula facility for the original intent.

On a final note, I received information today that the issue around the per-diem rate is now resolved. I anticipate that the contract process will now move ahead rapidly.

Sincerely,



Mike Ferriter
Director

Attachments



BCC 2010-256
December 14, 2010

PHONE: (406) 258-4877
FAX: (406) 721-4043

Mike Ferriter, Director
Montana Department of Corrections
P.O. Box 201301
Helena, MT 59620-1301

RECEIVED

DEC 17 2010

DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Dear Director Ferriter:

Thank you for your courtesy call regarding the Department of Corrections proposal to revert the Missoula Assessment and Sanction Center (MASC) program at our detention facility to a regional prison. Unfortunately, the transition your department seeks counters the efforts Missoula County has made at the detention facility since the last request by your department to alter programming. The Department of Corrections changed the program from a regional prison to the MASC protocol in 2002, then to community corrections. Since then, we have gradually converted space formerly leased to your department to other functions necessary to meet the changing needs of our County jail and regional juvenile detention programs.

As a result, there is no longer any space available to accommodate services required for a regional prison, such as ~~industries, hobbies or indoor recreation~~. Additionally, the contract with our ~~medical provider~~ is based upon the needs of a transient community corrections population in Unit One, not a population of long-term prison inmates. In short, it is simply not possible to go back to being a regional prison without significant investment in the facility and operational changes. That funding is not available and the space requirements are not compatible with the campus master plan.

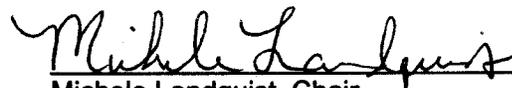
Also noteworthy, from Missoula County's perspective, is the ongoing debate with your department over the per diem rate for State prisoners and the County's regularly defeated attempts to negotiate a contract with your department since 2003. Continued conflict over the 2007 calculation, based on the statutorily required formula for reimbursement, hardly affords Missoula County the confidence that negotiating with your department about any programming transition, let alone a transition this significant, would be in the best interest of County taxpayers.

Therefore, the most appropriate action by the Montana Department of Corrections is to retain the MASC program at the Missoula County Detention Center in its current iteration.

Sincerely,
MISSOULA COUNTY SHERIFF

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Michael R. McMeekin


Michele Landquist, Chair


Biff Carey, Commissioner


Jean Curtiss, Commissioner

MASC INFORMATION

1/24/11

Design Layout

1. Six 24 man blocks (2 inmates per cell) with 2 tiers
2. Each block has a dayroom area
3. One outdoor recreation yard limited to no more than one block at a time (similar to Glendive)
4. Three small classrooms off of the blocks
5. Two detention cells that have limitations and not really lock up cells
6. Industries area converted to storage and canteen holding
7. Lockup/holding cells originally shared between state and county are all used by the county side now
8. Indoor recreation yard originally shared between the state and county is all used by the county side now
9. Visiting area is non-contact and is limited to 3 rows of visiting booths
10. No established area for Religious Activities
11. Library area is on the county side and is limited in size. Utilized book carts in the past. Question on anything related to legal resources in the library
12. Food Service and Maintenance functions currently provided for the entire facility and would see no change.
13. Medical, dental and mental health services would have to be increased and mostly likely done on a contract.

Potential Usage

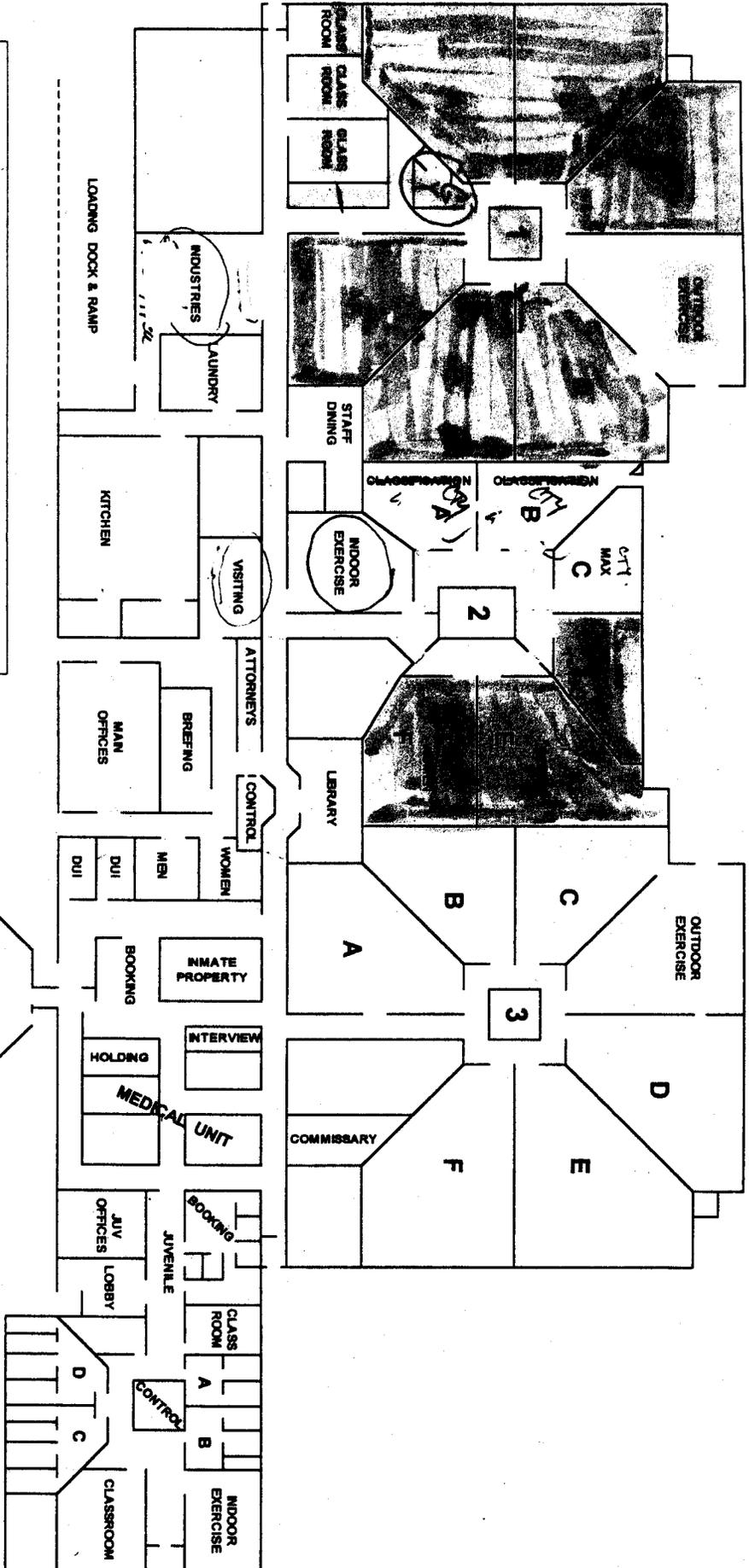
1. ~~Minimum and Medium II custody levels similar to what is on the~~ MSP Low Side Compound (usually have anywhere from 60 to 120 inmates classified waiting low side housing unit placement)
2. Utilize one block for CD inmates (will impact waiting list)
3. Utilize one block for SO inmates (will impact waiting list)
4. Remaining blocks would be for general population inmates (as outlined in 1 above)
5. Inmates with separation needs or other issues at MSP may be housed here that are low custody
6. GED will be one of the other programs and utilize a contract teacher
7. Will need to have some type of hobby activity allowed on the housing unit blocks
8. Inmate job situation is little to none so need to have ITUs, GED and hobby to keep inmates occupied

Potential Staffing (facility currently works 12 hour shifts with 2.5 RF)

- 1 Contract Monitor
- 1 Unit Manager
- 1 Case Manager
- 1 CO Cage Officer per shift (2 with RF 5)
- 2 Floor CO Cage Officer per shift (4 with RF 10)
- 1 Sergeant per Shift (2 with RF may be 4 or 5)
- 1 Grievance/Disciplinary
- Contracted services for teacher for GED, CD and SOP
- 1 IPPO
- 1 CO for property/orientation/visiting/library/RAC (with RF 2.5)
- Existing food service and maintenance personnel and operation utilized

MASC Unit

MISSOULA REGIONAL ADULT & JUVENILE
DETENTION CENTER
GENERAL LAYOUT



10Z71999

RM

Missoulian

State, Missoula County at odds over plan to turn jail wing into regional prison

By GWEN FLORIO of the Missoulian | Posted: Friday, January 14, 2011 10:49 pm

Part of the Missoula County Detention Center housing state inmates headed for community programs would return to its original purpose as a regional state prison, under a proposal by the Montana Department of Corrections.

Not if Missoula County has anything to do with it.

"I don't think any of us are thrilled about it," said Sheriff Carl Ibsen. "It's a fairly big change."

Missoula County commissioners last month sent a letter opposing the plan to Department of Corrections Director Mike Ferriter.

"It is simply not possible to go back to being a regional prison without significant investment in the facility and operational changes," said the letter signed by then-Sheriff Mike McMeekin and Commissioners Michele Landquist, Bill Carey and Jean Curtiss.

Since 2003, the wing has been home to the Corrections Department's Missoula Assessment and Sanctions Center that evaluates prisoners for further placement. Some 77 percent of them go on to minimum-security programs such as boot camp, treatment programs or prerelease centers.

However, the Department of Corrections contends that because the wing once housed state prisoners - as intended when it was built in 1998 - any cost would be minimal. Ferriter included the plan in his presentation to the Legislature's Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections, citing prison population projections.

"We don't have an overcrowding situation at the moment, but our projections are indicating that we're going to need some bed space in the next couple of years, and none of this stuff gets built overnight," Ferriter said in a telephone interview.

About 2,343 men are housed at the state prison in Deer Lodge, as well as regional prisons in Great Falls and Glendive, and the private Crossroads Correctional Center in Shelby. That number also includes state prisoners now in county jails awaiting space in a facility or program.

The prison population grows by about 2 percent a year; at that rate, projections show those combined facilities will be over capacity by just four people by the end of this year, a number that is expected to hit 194 by 2015.

The 144 MASC beds would take care of most of that expected overflow. The other regional prisons in Great Falls and Glendive already are at capacity, Ferriter said.

"We're trying to be efficient and think, 'How can we create some additional bed space and keep costs down as much as possible?'" Ferriter said.

"The Missoula regional prison is a very well-built, secure facility," he said. "... We could utilize that for higher-risk offenders and move this program (MASC) to a less costly building."

But Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer Dale Bickell called the plan "a significant change to our programming," and said the county will likely raise vehement objections during a meeting with Ferriter later this month.

"Our staff is trained to deal with a (lower-security) type of inmate rather than one with long-term incarceration," he said. "... We have an issue with personnel and with space and then there's always money."

Everything in the Missoula County facility has evolved to deal with inmates' relatively short stays in the MASC program, ideally between 60 and 90 days, said MASC unit manager Sgt. Barbara Rodrick, a county employee.

For instance, the only outdoor recreation area is a small concrete enclosure roofed over with wire.

For longer-term inmates, "mentally, that's not good. They don't get out. They don't see grass," she said.

There are no GED programs; no educational programs at all, in fact, she said. That's because the whole idea behind MASC is that inmates will work on their behavior with an eye toward rejoining the community.

"They're supposed to think about their life," she said.

Rodrick has been at the facility since it was built, and remembers the first two years, when it housed more traditional state inmates, as "overwhelming."

"The long-term guys hated it here because there was nothing to do," she said - as opposed to Deer Lodge, where inmates can work in the dairy or ranch or other prison enterprises, or at hobbies such as horsehair hitching or beading.

As for the money, Missoula County has long castigated as inadequate the reimbursement it receives for the state inmates, which totals about \$2.9 million a year. "It's been an ongoing issue," Ibsen said.

Missoula County provides the guards for the state inmates in the detention center; the state pays for four MASC employees and contracts out for a mental health, chemical dependency and a sex offender counselor.

Ferriter said the state is "very satisfied" with MASC, and will continue the program if the state authorizes a request to continue it in a different location.

That is, if the state can resolve its issues with the county.

"It's kind of in limbo right now," Landquist said.

Reporter Gwen Florio can be reached at 523-5268, gwen.florio@missoulian.com or on CopsAndCourts.com.

DOC POPULATION REPORT

11/20/2011

The information in this report is updated each business day and will reflect information received in the Classification and Placement Unit prior to 1700 hours on the above date.

Montana State Prison

Operational Capacity Total (WRC=190 + MSP=1295):		1485
Time Reported	Phone #	Reported by
<input type="text" value=""/>	846-1320 # 2214	Teyrl
WRC On Site	Total	190
MDIU	Unclassified	127
MDIU	LS Wait	56
MSP On Site	Total	1246
Total WRC + MSP On Site		1436
	Off Site Fire Crew	0
	Off Site Other	1
	Court	21
Total Count		1458

Montana Women's Prison

Operational Capacity:		194
Time Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by
<input type="text" value="0300"/>	247-5100	Hammel
Total on Site		196
Off Site		1
Court		2
Total MWP		199
Jail Hold		
DOC-ASRC		13
MWP		4
Contract	Total Jail Hold	17

Montana State Hospital 3

Facility	Phone #	Reported	time rptd	On-Site	Off-Site	Court	Capacity
ESCP	377-7600	Nichols	0600	143	0	0	
GPFP	454-6820	Poke		150	0	0	
MSO	434-7055	Abbott	0008	550	0	0	
MSO	258-4011	Solinski	0548	132	0	0	

CCC	FED INMATES	73	0008	Jail Hold	1530	Sally	
CCC	S DORM	0	0008	DOC	29		Contract On-Site Total 985
MASC	SANCTION	0	0548	MSP			Contract Off-Site Total 0
MASC	TSCTC/DIVERSION	0	0548	Start	2		Contract Court Total 0
				Total	104		Contract Facilities Total 985

TSCTC - Operation Capacity: **60**

Time Reported	Phone #	Reported by
<input type="text" value=""/>	846-1320 2100	Karen
		Prison
On Site		42
In Transit		0
Off Site		0
Sanction		0
Total Count		47

After Care Gt Falls Rhonda 24 **30**
Operation Capacity

Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility

Operational Capacity:		120
Time Reported	Phone #	Reported by
<input type="text" value="1200"/>	232-1377	Tracy
On Site		68
Off Site		2
In Transit		0
Total Count		70

Riverside Youth Correctional Facility

Operational Capacity:		20
Time Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by
<input type="text" value="0835"/>	225-4500	Mary
On Site		12
Off Site		0
Total Count		12

Youth Services Division/Great Falls

Time Reported	Phone #	Reported by
<input type="text" value="0830"/>	452-1792	Tony
On Site	Male	4
	Female	2
Off Site		0
Total Count		6

Juvenile Parole

Date Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Totals
<input type="text" value="Dec-10"/>		J Christofferson	76

Adult Prob/Parole(this total includes offenders on ISP & ESP)

Date Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Totals
<input type="text" value="Dec-10"/>		Cheryl Waits	8,644

Adult Interstate Probation/Parole

Date Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Totals
<input type="text" value="Dec-10"/>		Cheryl Waits	1,507

Population Report

Date: 1/20/2011

Male Prerelease Center Count

Facility	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Institutional	Non Institutional	Total	Contract Capacity
Missoula	541-9200	Dennis	1310	39	43	82	90
Butte	782-2316	Gary	0040	78	48	126	120
Great Falls	727-0944	Rhonda		78	40	118	135
Great Falls							
Sanction Beds	727-0944	Rhonda	0	1	0	1	3
Alternatives	259-9695	Kristen	1503	105	51	156	157
Alternatives							
Sanction Beds	259-9695	Kristen	1503	0	2	2	3
Helena	442-6572	Dave	1005	53	39	92	92
Helena							
Watch After Care	442-6572	Dave	1005	0		0	6
Bozeman	994-0300	Art	0502	10	24	34	30
Total Count				364	247	611	636

Female Prerelease Center Count

Facility	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Institutional	Non Institutional	Total	Contract Capacity
Missoula	541-9200	Dennis	1310	0	16	16	20
Butte	782-2316	Gary	0040	24	26	50	55
Great Falls	727-0944	Rhonda	0	7	27	34	34
PASSAGES	294-9609	Shannon	0940	14	40	54	65
Total Count				45	109	154	174

Transitional Living Count

Facility	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Male	Female	Total	Contract Capacity
Missoula	541-9200	Dennis	1310	9	1	10	12
Butte	782-2316	Gary	0040	23	10	33	20
Great Falls	727-0944	Rhonda	0	1	1	2	10
Alternatives	259-9695	Kristen	1503	24	0	24	20
Helena	442-6572	Dave	1005	8	0	8	10
Bozeman	994-0300	Art	0502	3	0	3	5
PASSAGES	294-9609	Shannon	0940	0	3	3	8
Total Count				68	15	83	85

Enhanced Supervision Program

Facility	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Male	Female	Total	Contract Capacity
Missoula	541-9200	Dennis	1310	11	1	12	12
Butte	782-2316	Gary	0040	21	7	28	16
Great Falls	727-0944	Rhonda	0	13	3	16	22
Alternatives	259-9695	Kristen	1503	48	11	59	40
Helena	442-6572	Dave	1005	8	1	9	16
Bozeman	994-0300	Art	0502	9	0	9	16
Total Count				110	23	133	122

Day Reporting

Facility	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Male	Female	Total	Contract Capacity
Kalispell	752-2864	Blaise		16	5	21	20
Total Count				16	5	21	20

Population Report

Treatment Facilities

1/20/2011

WATCH- DUI Warm Springs West

Time Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Contract Capacity
1500	693-2272	Jake	115
Male	115		
Inmate Wk	2		
Off site - Hosp/Jail	0		
Total	117		

WATCH- DUI Glendive East

Time Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Contract Capacity
0812	377-6001	Larry	48
Female	21		
Male	29		
Inmate Wk	1		
Offsite	0		
Total	51		

Elkhorn

Time Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Contract Capacity
0530		Tina	36
Female DOC	38		
Court	0		
Off site	1		
Total	39		

Nexus

Time Rprtd	Phone #	Reported by	Contract Capacity
	535-6660	Dayne	80
Male	87		
Inmate Wk	1		
Off site	0		
Total	88		

Connections CD Program Count West Warm Springs

Location (Male)	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	(Capacity 10) Sanction	Non Sanction	Total	Contract Capacity
Warm Springs	693-2272	Marissa	1504	7	53	60	52
Total Count				7	53	60	

Connections CD Program Count East Butte

Location	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Institutional	Non Institutional	Jail	Total	Contract Capacity
Butte	782-6626	Joe	1700	12	38	0	50	52
Total Count				12	38	0	50	

MCDC

Location	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Male	Female	Total	Capacity
Butte	496-5400	Jamie		5	4	9	8

PASSAGES ADT - Female

Location	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	(Capacity 32) Treatment	(Capacity 4) Sanction	Probation	Total	Contract Capacity
Billings	294-9609	Shannon	0940	28	6	5	39	36

PASSAGES CAP - Female

Location	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Female	Total	Contract Capacity
Billings	294-9609	Shannon	0940	13	13	15

PASSAGES

Assessment, Sanction & Revocation Center(ASRC)-Female

START - Anaconda

Rprtd By	Phone #	Time Reported
TJ	563-7002	1652
Mental Health Beds		0
Revocation		105
Sanction (capacity 16)		10
Inmate wrk		2
Hold		0
Total		117
Contract Capacity		118

Rprtd By	Phone #	Time Reported
Shannon	294-9609	0940
Ass. Hold		0
Assessment		17
Sanction		1
Revocation		39
Off Site		0
Total		57
Contract Capacity		50

Population Report

1/20/2011

Male Intensive Supervision Population Count

Location	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Parole	DOC	Prob	Sanction	Cond'l Release	Total	Capacity
Missoula		Sandra	0808	8	0	4	34	8	54	88
Bozeman		Sandy	0806	3	0	13	10	4	30	44
Great Falls	268-3202	Sheila		10	0	2	15	24	51	66
Billings		Daniel	1700	21	0	6	27	16	70	88
Butte		Barb		1	2	5	9	14	31	44
Total Count				43	2	30	95	66	236	330

Female Intensive Supervision Population Count

Location	Phone #	Reported By	Time Reported	Parole	DOC	Prob	Sanction	Cond'l Release	Total	Capacity
Missoula		Sandra	0808	2	0	2	4	2	10	CWM*
Bozeman		Sandy	0806	0	0	2	7	0	9	CWM*
Great Falls	268-3202	Sheila	0	2	0	0	7	5	14	CWM*
Billings		Daniel	1700	0	0	1	11	2	14	CWM*
Butte		Barb	0	0	0	1	3	4	8	CWM*
Total Count				4	0	6	32	13	55	

Total Male & Female Intensive Supervision

Location	Total
Missoula	64
Bozeman	39
Great Falls	65
Billings	84
Butte	39
Total	291

*CWM means total capacity is combined with male capacity.

Institutional means the offender came from = MSP, MWP, START, Regional (Cascade County Detention Center & Dawson County Corrections Facility) or Private prison (Crossroads Correctional Center)

Non-Institutional means the offender came from = MASC, BASC, CCP, WATCH, TSCTC or direct community placements